for their officers and they wondered why they should stay at the front and eventually expose themselves to danger. Most of them had a vague feeling of duty and responsibility, however; otherwise they would have abandoned the front at the beginning of the revolution. But this feeling was fading and could not replace discipline. The task was to develop a new morale, a new *esprit de corps*.

Resentment, bewilderment, self-pity, and other contradictory emotions often led the soldiers to irrational outbursts. A regiment would declare that it would no longer clean the barracks: Let the officers do the job if they thought it necessary. Another regiment would decide that the men needed no further drilling or training: "We have had enough of this!" Either decision led to mass disobedience to service orders. By insisting on the execution of his order, an officer would bring revolt into the open. In some cases it therefore seemed wiser to seek a compromise: for example, to limit training to more or less tractable companies and reduce it to exercises in shooting. It was more difficult to handle a regiment in the line when it refused to maintain fortifications, declaring to the officers, "Why should we kill ourselves working? The Fritzies won't come!"

When the men had special grudges against officers, shots were fired at officers' tents at night, hand grenades were thrown. Fatalities were not numerous, but in some cases all the officers had left the regiment. The military value of an outfit in such a state was, of course, nil.

In their efforts to stir up unrest, the Communists found unexpected allies in the most reactionary elements of the army—former gendarmes, old-regime sergeants, the junior officers most hated by the soldiers, persons with criminal records—all of whom tried to ingratiate themselves with the troops as defenders of soldiers' rights. These were the authors of the most arrogant resolutions and extravagant demands.

There was a strange rhythm of unrest in the army. After two or three weeks of "foolishness," a regiment would quietly resume training, clean barracks, and maintain fortifications. A regiment located in a reserve line would announce that it would not go to advanced positions, but when the order came it would march forward. The Novo-Ladoga Regiment was an example. After it had decided to go along with the rest of the army, it became a regiment like any other, recognized the authority of officers and obeyed their orders.

Together with the Iskosol, I tried to strengthen self-confidence in the better elements of the army, to increase cohesion among the soldiers, and to raise the prestige of regimental committees among the rank and file. Home-backed resolutions carried more weight